

XVIII.—*On a new genus of South African Pselaphidæ.*

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THE genus here brought to notice belongs to the group *Faronides*, distinguished by the claws, which are two in number, and equal or very nearly so. The general characters being those of the *Euplectini*, the following diagnosis will be sufficient for purposes of identification:—

FARONIDIUS, n. g. (*Euplectini*).

Head transverse; eyes very large, prominent, situated at the base; genæ almost entirely obsolete; front with a single deep fovea; antennæ long, slender, not capitate, approximate at base, inserted at the sides of a frontal tubercle, which is divided by a distinct groove, first joint as long as the next two together; maxillary palpi small, fourth joint as long as the preceding joints combined, ovate, slightly truncate at tip. Under surface of the head with two impressed foveæ near the base, connected by a deeply impressed transverse groove, and also having a dense fringe of long erect setæ at each side of the basal margin. Prothorax with a large transverse basal impression and lateral foveæ not connected. Elytra more than twice as long as the prothorax, each elytron having at base three parallel rows of small deep foveæ, the sutural striæ being continuous from the fourth fovea of the inner series. Abdomen distinctly shorter than the elytra; border wide, inclined; first visible dorsal segment shorter than the second, having near the base a transverse line of spongiose structure, which is slightly interrupted in the middle. Prosternum with a deep transverse groove nearly throughout its width. Elytra without lateral foveæ or carinæ. Legs and tarsi slender.

The systematic position of this genus appears to be in the vicinity of *Sagola*, Sharp, which it resembles in the structure and position of the antennæ, but from which it differs greatly in the structure of the under

surface of the head, and in the number and relative position of the frontal and prenotal impressions.

*Faronidius africanus*, n. s.

Form slender, linear, depressed; integuments feebly shining, pale rufo-ferruginous throughout; pubescence long, fine, very dense, subrecumbent. Head slightly narrower than the prothorax, wider than long; base transversely truncate; eyes very large and prominent from above; front with a deep rounded fovea in the



middle of the length and in a line through the anterior portion of the eyes; it is continued anteriorly by a narrow deep canaliculation which bisects the frontal tubercle; the latter transverse, abrupt behind; antennæ slightly more than one-half as long as the body; third joint small, remainder longer than wide, obconical; eleventh slightly more robust, slightly shorter than the two preceding together, with an oblique process at apex. Prothorax widest at one-third its length from the apex, much wider than long; sides strongly rounded anteriorly, feebly convergent and very slightly sinuate towards base; the latter transverse, abruptly and slightly

areolate in the middle, one-half wider than the apex; disk evenly convex anteriorly; basal impression large and deep. Elytra at base slightly wider than the prothorax; sides more strongly areolate near the apex; disk depressed, distinctly longer than the head and prothorax together. Abdomen slightly shorter than the elytra, equal to the latter in width. Length, 1.5 mm.

Wellington, South Africa.

The structure of the vertex is somewhat peculiar, the median tubercle being connected with the anterior margin of the clypeus by a corneous band, which appears at first sight to be a strongly elevated carina, but which is in reality entirely detached from the vertex, except at its point of origin on the tubercle and clypeus. The type is a female, the apex of the abdomen beneath being unmodified; it is the only representative which I have seen.